

IN THE CLAIMS

79. (Previously presented) A method for producing coal seam gas from a coal seam comprising:

forming a drainage pattern in a coal seam, the drainage pattern comprising a plurality of auxiliary drainage bores extending from, and arranged in substantially equal and parallel spacing on opposite sides of, a main drainage bore such that the drainage pattern provides substantially uniform coverage of a selected area of the coal seam in which the drainage pattern is located; and

simultaneously removing water and coal seam gas substantially uniformly from the selected area of the coal seam through the drainage pattern.

80. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 79, wherein the a main bore is substantially horizontal.

81. (Original) The method of Claim 80, wherein the auxiliary drainage bores are generally symmetrically arranged on each side of the central bore.

82. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 79, wherein the selected area of the coal seam has relatively equal length to width ratios.

83. (Original) The method of Claim 79, wherein the drainage pattern comprises a substantially horizontal pattern.

84. (Original) The method of Claim 79, further comprising forming an enlarged diameter cavity, the drainage pattern extending from the enlarged diameter cavity; and

simultaneously producing water and coal seam gas from the coal seam through the enlarged diameter cavity.

85. (Original) The method of Claim 84, wherein the enlarged diameter cavity comprises a diameter of approximately eight feet.

86. (Original) The method of Claim 79, wherein the auxiliary drainage bores are progressively shorter as they progress away from a surface well bore.

87. (Previously presented) A method for producing formation gas from a gas bearing formation, comprising:

forming a drainage pattern in a gas bearing formation, the drainage pattern comprising a plurality of auxiliary drainage bores extending from, and arranged in substantially equal and parallel spacing on opposite sides, a main drainage bore such that the drainage pattern provides substantially uniform coverage of a selected area of the gas bearing formation in which the drainage pattern is located; and

simultaneously moving water and formation gas substantially uniformly from the selected area of the gas bearing formation.

88. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 87, wherein the a main bore is substantially horizontal.

89. (Original) The method of Claim 88, wherein the auxiliary drainage bores are generally symmetrically arranged on each side of the central bore.

90. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 87, wherein the selected area of the gas bearing formation has equal length to width ratios.

91. (Original) The method of Claim 87, wherein the drainage pattern comprises a substantially horizontal pattern.

92. (Original) The method of Claim 87, further comprising forming an enlarged diameter cavity, the drainage pattern extending from the enlarged diameter cavity; and

simultaneously producing water and formation gas from the gas bearing formation through the enlarged diameter cavity.

93. (Original) The method of Claim 92, wherein the enlarged diameter cavity comprises a diameter of approximately eight feet.

94. (Original) The method of Claim 87, wherein the auxiliary drainage bores are progressively shorter as they progress away from a surface well bore.

95. (Original) The method of Claim 87, wherein water and formation gas are produced from a substantially quadrilateral area of the gas bearing formation.

96. (Original) The method of Claim 87, wherein the drainage pattern provides substantially uniform coverage of an area of the gas bearing formation.

97. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 79, further comprising simultaneously producing water and coal seam gas from the coal seam through a cavity.

98. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 87, further comprising simultaneously producing water and formation gas from the gas-bearing formation through a cavity.